What is claimed is:

1.   A method of automatic image file backup for use with a digital camera, the method comprising:

transferring an image file to an archive memory for storage; and

creating a copy of the image file as a backup image file automatically in response to transferring, the backup image file being stored separate from the transferred image file.

2.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the backup image file is automatically created for storage without intervention by a user of the digital camera.

3.   The method of Claim 1, further comprising storing the transferred image file as an original image file in the archive memory; and storing the created backup image file other than as the original image file.

4.   The method of Claim 3, wherein the backup image file is stored in the archive memory along with but separate from the original image file.

5.   The method of Claim 1, wherein the backup image file is stored in a location other than the archive memory, the location being one or more of a network disk drive, a file server disk drive and a remote data storage facility on the Internet.

6.   A method of automatic image file backup comprising:

transferring an image file from a memory of a digital camera;

storing the transferred image file as an original image file;

creating a backup image file from the image file automatically in response to transferring; and

storing the created backup image file.

7.   The method of Claim 6, wherein the created backup image file is stored in an archive memory along with but separate from the original image file.

8.   The method of Claim 6, wherein the created backup image file is stored in another location relative to a location that the original image file is stored, the other location being one or more of a network disk drive, a file server disk drive and a remote Internet-based data storage site.

9.   The method of Claim 6, further comprising setting a read-only attribute of the created backup image file when stored to reduce a chance that the backup image file is modified or deleted following storage.

10.   The method of Claim 6, wherein the image file is temporarily stored in a removable memory of the digital camera, the removable memory being removed from the digital camera and placed in a reader during transferring.

11.   A digital camera comprising:

means for automatic image file backup in response to uploading of an image file from the camera to a system providing archive memory.

12.   The digital camera of Claim 11, wherein the means for automatic image file backup comprises a transfer driver stored in a memory of the digital camera and executed by a controller of the digital camera.

13.   The digital camera of Claim 12, wherein instructions of the transfer driver when executed by the controller, automatically create and store a backup image file in conjunction with uploading the image file.

14.   A digital camera having automatic image file backup comprising:

a memory;

a controller; and

a transfer driver stored in the memory and executed by the controller;

wherein instruction of the executed transfer driver automatically create and store a backup image file in conjunction with uploading an image file from the digital camera to an archive memory, the backup image file representing a copy of the uploaded image file.

15. The digital camera of Claim 14, wherein instructions of the executed transfer driver upload the image file for storage as an original image file in the archive memory, the backup image file being created and stored in response to the upload.

16. The digital camera of Claim 14, wherein the archive memory is a disk drive of a computer and wherein the backup image file is stored in the disk drive along with but separate from the uploaded image file.

17. The digital camera of Claim 14, wherein the archive memory is a disk drive of a computer and wherein the backup image file is stored in a location other than the archive memory.

18. The digital camera of Claim 17, wherein the other location is selected from a network disk drive, a memory of a network file server and an Internet site.

19. The digital camera of Claim 14, wherein the transfer driver further provides a graphical user interface that facilitates selecting a location for storing the backup image file.

20. A digital photographic system comprising:
    means for automatically creating and storing a backup image file in response to an image file upload from a digital camera to an archive memory of a computer.

21. The digital photographic system of Claim 20, wherein the means for automatically creating and storing comprises a transfer driver executed by either the digital camera or the computer in conjunction with the upload.

22. A digital photographic system having automatic image file backup comprising:
    a digital camera;
    a computer having an archive memory;
    a communications interface connecting the digital camera and the computer during an upload of an image file from the digital camera to the archive memory of the computer; and

a transfer driver executed by the computer,

wherein instructions of the transfer driver automatically create and store a backup image file in conjunction with the upload, the backup image file representing a copy of the uploaded image file.

5   23.   The digital photographic system of Claim 22, wherein the computer is selected from a personal computer, a laptop computer, and a personal digital assistant.

24.   The digital photographic system of Claim 22, wherein instructions of the transfer driver further store the image file as an original image file in the archive memory during the upload.

10   25.   The digital photographic system of Claim 24, wherein the backup image file is stored in the archive memory along with but separate from the original image file.

26.   The digital photographic system of Claim 22, wherein the backup image file is stored in a location other than the archive memory, the other location being

15   selected from a network disk drive, a memory of a network file server and an Internet file storage site.

27.   The digital photographic system of Claim 22, wherein the communications interface comprises one or both of a wired interface and a wireless interface.

28.   The digital photographic system of Claim 22, further comprising a backup

20   memory system, wherein the backup memory system receives the stored backup image file, the backup memory system comprising one or more of a network disk drive, a memory of a network file server and an Internet file storage site.